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I am excited to be writing about the opportunity to work as a Student Success Graduate Assistant at Oregon State University. I was immediately drawn to this position and feel it is a perfect fit for my professional and academic background. I am passionate about helping students and feel this role would allow me the opportunity to do so while also allow me to grow personally and gain skills that will help as I pursue goal of becoming a professor.

I was incredibly excited about the innovative and collaborative work this position will be engaged in as it helps to lead and grow the Grad Advantage initiative. I discovered my love for this type of work and supporting students while pursuing my MBA and working at the Career Development Center. During this time I helped plan, implement and assess a number of events, programs and initiatives. One of these was helping with all aspects of our Career Expos which attract hundreds of employees and thousands of students every term. I also worked to found our Career Advisory Committee with representatives from companies like Boeing, Target and the United Way. I also worked directly with University leadership to lead a large assessment program of five years of past Student life data which was used as part of a major rebranding and reallocation of funding.

I feel my work as a Software Engineer at Amazon and Cambia Health Solutions would also be useful in the more technology based aspects of the Grad Advantage initiative. At Cambia Health Solutions I worked as a Salesforce Software Engineer on a customer support team. At Amazon I work as a full stack software engineer helping to scale user facing applications. In both of these roles I was working in direct support with customers learning about user interface and user engagement with software platforms including the metrics needed to understand and utilize this engagement to improve customer experience.

I have always been passionate about entrepreneurship and feel that there is a strong component of innovation and entrepreneurship in this role that I could apply this passion towards. I also love the collaborative nature of this role and would love to get to know the other team members in the Graduate School and relationships I develop with other across campus. I hope to speak more about my interest in this role and my background.

Thanks for your time,   
David Vasquez